



MERCY

Perspectives



FALL 2018

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25 Years of Miracles

In the spirit of God's Love...

My dear friends,

Where did all the years go by so swiftly? Wasn't it just yesterday our children took baby steps, were in elementary school and now many are professionals. Many years ago, I took a risk for God. I answered a call to help God restore dignity through His Love. To be His voice on behalf of the ordinary person. All I said was yes and took one baby step at a time. Now 25 years later, I am still saying yes and still taking one baby step at a time. The mountains we climbed, and the obstacles we met only helped us attain unreachable numbers of patient visits which we never thought could be surpassed.

Today there is so much anger, division and indifference on all different types of platforms. Now, more than ever Mission of Mercy is needed to help the less fortunate. Day after day our volunteers continue to give all of themselves to so many people in need.

Did our volunteers feel those years fly by after a tiring eight or nine hours of unconditional service? I would bet there were many heartbreaking days for them after witnessing such unfortunate situations. Yet the loyalty and dedication of our volunteers is the proof of God's Glory. To serve with joy and to arduously work endlessly is the healing balm our patients receive. Mission of Mercy volunteers gleam with joy in their eyes and happiness in their heart.

Over the years I have been blessed to have met many wonderful, inspirational and Holy people. I thank all our board of directors, staff, volunteers and benefactors for looking beyond just the need but who have made a change in the world one baby step at a time. It is an honor and privilege to know you.

With heartfelt thanks, I remain with you in the spirit of God's Love.

Gianna Talone-Sullivan, Pharm D.
Foundress, Mission of Mercy

REFLECTIONS

From Our Volunteers

Every time the Mission of Mercy mobile medical clinic pulls into one of our church sites, a swarm of volunteers descends and begins scurrying about like busy bees. They set up the registration table, get the triage area organized and all the necessary equipment readied. Translators stand nearby, waiting to assist those whose pain speaks volumes, but who still need help communicating with the medical team that will care for them.

Simply put, Mission of Mercy would not exist without our generous, talented and compassionate volunteers. We asked a few of them why they give up their time to help and here's what they had to say:

"No one is more cherished in this world than someone who lightens the burden of another."

~Author Unknown

"Since I am semi-retired, I am now able to use my skills to share the Love of Christ with a needy population."

~Barb Kell,
HARRISBURG RN

"I was a patient first. I want to give back. I love everyone here."

~Terry Sullivan,
REISTERSTOWN REGISTRATION



25 Years of Miracles

- First clinics open in Westminster, Brunswick and Thurmont.

1995

- Mission of Mercy is the first organization to be featured in CBS Evening News segment with Dan Rather called "The Best of Us."
- Mission of Mercy begins offering dental services.

1997

- St. Agnes Hospital begins free specialty consults.
- Volunteers donate 7,574 hours valued at \$202,500.

1999

1994

- In first six months, Mission of Mercy serves 400 patients.
- 40 medical professionals and lay individuals volunteer.

1996

- Clinic opens in Frederick, MD.
- Frederick Memorial Hospital offers free lab and x-ray services to our patients.

1998

- First vehicle replaced with new 37' mobile clinic.
- 8,200 medical patient visits and over 15,000 free medications dispensed.

"I serve because of the opportunity it gives me to help other people who are not as fortunate. I also enjoy the friendships I make with the staff and other volunteers."

~Lorraine Demers,
BRUNSWICK PATIENT ADVOCATE

"I have been blessed with so much and so many others have so little."

~Tom Wilson,
DRIVER FOR FREDERICK AND
REISTERSTOWN CLINICS

"I want to contribute positively to the community. And what a wonderful group of people to be around."

~Susan Thompson,
GETTYSBURG, INTERPRETER

"I receive many graces from the patients. I pray always to see Jesus in them and that they see Jesus in me."

~Joan Condon,
BRUNSWICK AND FREDERICK RN

"It's a small way I give thanks for the blessings of my family and my practice."

~T.C. Llewellyn, DDS,
REISTERSTOWN

"I believe very much in the 'Mission.'"

~Ed Edder,
TANEYTOWN, REGISTRATION
AND DATA ENTRY

We Fondly Remember...

During the course of our 25 years, we have been touched by the generosity of volunteers who have since left this life but whose contributions have been etched on the hearts and souls of all those who were recipients of their kindness and compassion.

Dick Baldwin
Phil Coghlin
Dr. Donald Douglas
Linda Duffy
Migdalia Faria
Pat Flessner
Peter Foscatto
Sharon Gunn
Walter Kovalcek

Miriam Lane
Bob Lawrence
Dee Lawrence
Ruth Mayer
Barbara Purcell
Jim Ross
Sharon Spangler
Jean Sullivan
Wayne Warthen



- Exceeded 12,500 patients.
- Over 1,000 dental patient visits including 3,600 separate dental procedures.

2001

- Nearly 9,000 medical patient visits and dispensed over 21,400 free prescription medications.
- Free lab and x-ray donated by 5 participating healthcare providers, valued at over \$185,000.

2002

- Prenatal Clinic opens in Frederick, MD Clinic.
- Over 9,300 medical patient visits and over 20,000 free prescription medications dispensed.

2003

- Over 100,000 patient visits since our inception in 1994.
- New clinics open in Harrisburg, PA & Mt. Airy, MD.

2004

- New MD/PA mobile medical clinic donated by Charlotte English Foundation.
- Over 30,400 free prescription medications dispensed.

2005

- 60-120 patients seen each day.
- 169,000 free patient visits provided.

Our Partners in Care



When Mission of Mercy was launched 25 years ago, one critical aspect of the program was finding places that would accommodate our mobile medical van. It did not take long for several sites to step up and offer to host us. As has been true throughout our history, we continue to be graced by new and generous churches who allow us to “invade” their spaces once or twice a month to serve our patients. We are forever grateful to these organizations for their hospitality.

- Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Thurmont, MD
- Trinity Church of God, Brunswick, MD
- Faith Baptist Church, Brunswick, MD
- Frederick Church of the Brethren, Frederick, MD
- Reisterstown United Methodist Church, Reisterstown, MD
- Church of the Ascension, Westminster, MD
- Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Taneytown, MD
- Taneytown Baptist Church, Taneytown, MD
- St. Joseph Catholic Church, Taneytown, MD
- United Methodist Church, Gettysburg, PA
- Four Square Church, Gettysburg, PA
- Christ Lutheran Church, Harrisburg, PA
- Harrisburg Brethren Christ Church, Harrisburg, PA
- Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, PA
- Human Services Programs, Westminster, MD
- Calvary United Methodist Church, Mt. Airy, MD

Mission of Mercy Hospital Partners

Very often, we see patients whose symptoms indicate a need for additional testing that we cannot provide in our mobile medical clinic. Mission of Mercy has been blessed by the incredible generosity of several regional hospitals that have enabled us to refer our patients to them for diagnostic tests such as x-rays, MRIs and blood work. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to these organizations on behalf of our patients and our medical staff and volunteers who want to do whatever they can to help our patients receive the level of care they need to get well.

- Carroll Hospital, Westminster, MD
- Northwest Hospital, Baltimore, MD
- St. Agnes Hospital, Baltimore, MD
- Mercy Hospital, Baltimore, MD
- Frederick Regional Health System, Frederick, MD
- Pinnacle Health System, Harrisburg, PA
- Geisinger Holy Spirit Hospital, Harrisburg, PA
- Gettysburg Hospital, Gettysburg, PA

Highlights of 25 Years of Miracles (cont.)

- Surgeon General of U.S., Vice Admiral Dr. Richard Carmona, visits Frederick, MD Clinic.

- Increase of more than 1,500 patient visits over 2007.
- Served more than 4,600 medical and dental patients.

- 9,964 free medical and dental patient visits.
- 18,350 free prescription medications dispensed.
- 3,600 dental procedures performed.

2006

- 200,000th patient visit.
- Physical therapy program launched.

2007

2008

- New Assistant Medical Director Dr. Larry Romane is hired.
- Mission of Mercy received nearly \$25,000 in designated funds from the annual workforce giving campaign in MD/PA.

2009

2010

- 110 patients seen in a single day.
- 9,200 medical patients and 3,800 dental procedures.
- 17,500 free prescription medications dispensed.

2011

HAVE YOU HEARD?!

Charity Navigator, the nation's largest and most-utilized evaluator of charities, has awarded Mission of Mercy a four-star rating for the second consecutive year, recognizing MOM as "exceptional" and noting that it "exceeds industry standards and outperforms most charities in its cause."



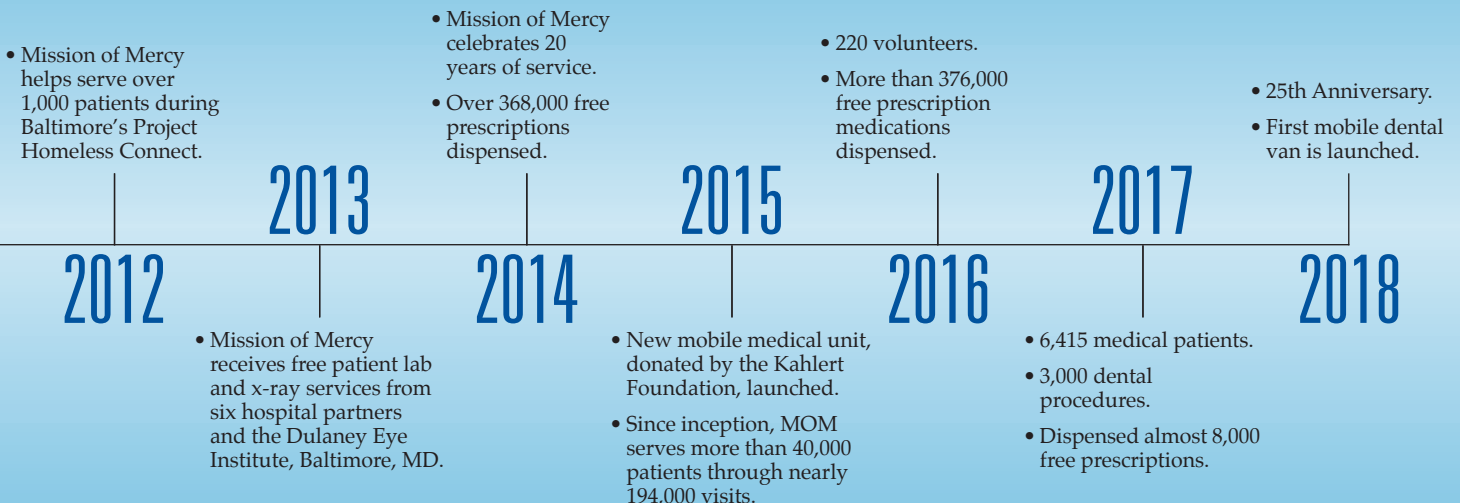
Charity Navigator examines two broad areas of a charity's performance: its financial health and its accountability and transparency. The organization's ratings demonstrate "how efficiently a charity uses their support, how well it has sustained its programs and services over time, and their level of commitment to good governance, best practices and openness with information."

"We are delighted that Charity Navigator has recognized our efforts to be good stewards of the gifts we are given," says Jennifer White, Mission of Mercy's development director.

A Gala Time Was Had by All

Thanks to our joy-filled, hardworking and dedicated committee, our generous sponsors, guests and auction donors, Mission of Mercy's 18th Annual Gala was a tremendous success. With more than 160 in attendance, guests enjoyed wonderful auction items and timeless classics by the talented Bryan Clark. We are excited to share that our Gala raised nearly \$100,000 to support Mission of Mercy's mobile medical clinics.

Please mark your calendar for next year's Gala on Friday, Oct. 4 at Springfield Manor and Winery in Thurmont, MD. We will keep you posted on the details throughout the year, but you can rest assured that the event is sure to be another wonderful evening spent among friends and fellow supporters of Mission of Mercy.



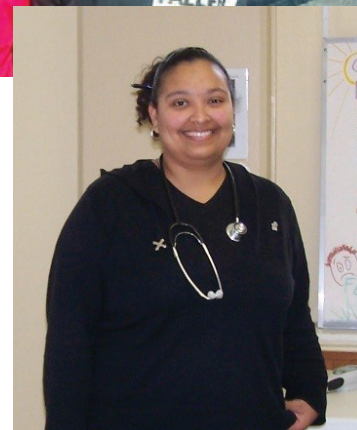
A Mission of Mercy Miracle

Dr. Michael Sullivan often says, "I wouldn't be doing this for 25 years if I didn't expect miracles to happen." He is not just speaking for himself. Over the years, Mission of Mercy has experienced countless acts of love and kindness and yes, miracles. Here is a heartwarming story about just one of them.

On a blustery, bone-chilling December morning, nurse Glenda Fuller faithfully arrived for her volunteer duties at Mission of Mercy's mobile medical clinic. Her smiling face and energetic persona masked the fact that she had just completed an overnight shift at the local hospital. It was a blessing that she had energy to spare, as she was about to experience a "Mission of Mercy miracle."

As patients began arriving, a young boy presented at the clinic in the arms of his father. Mission of Mercy generally provides free healthcare, dental care and prescription medications for adults with chronic health care issues, but occasionally we do see children. Glenda recognized the boy as Bryan, an 11-year-old who was seen a few months earlier for an upper respiratory infection. But this time was different. Bryan was pale, unresponsive and had no energy to navigate on his own. Glenda triaged him immediately and he was then rushed into the mobile medical unit where Mission of Mercy's Chief Medical Director Dr. Sullivan and a volunteer physician from the emergency room of the local hospital jumped into action.

They determined that Bryan was in dire need of hospitalization and might possibly have leukemia. The volunteer hospital emergency room physician dialed Children's Hospital in Washington, D.C. to collaborate with one of his colleagues. He explained Bryan's symptoms, adding that he had no insurance and was not fluent in English. His colleague suggested getting Bryan to Children's Hospital as soon as possible.



To expedite the process, Glenda, who spoke the family's language, agreed to transport Bryan and his father in her own vehicle.

The emergency room physician quickly jotted down the directions (Glenda did not have a GPS) and off she went. Shortly into her drive she cracked her window and the directions that were in her hand went flying! Frantically, Glenda called back to Mission of Mercy. As she was getting her directions again, she was cut off by an ambulance. As she was recounting this experience, the emergency room doctor said, "Does the ambulance have a teddy bear on the back of it?" "It does!" Glenda replied. The doctor responded by saying, "Follow it. It is going to Children's."

Glenda did just that and delivered Bryan safely. He was quickly seen by the specialist. Tests revealed Bryan did not have leukemia. But another specialist from NIH who was on rounds that day determined that Bryan had aplastic anemia and he accepted Bryan into his study group. For many of those involved in the events of that day, it truly was a miracle!

Bryan's life was saved through the love, caring and compassion of Glenda and those physicians who "answered the call" to help a young boy who was gravely ill and disenfranchised.

When you make a gift to Mission of Mercy, you put a smile on someone's face and bring the gift of hope, dignity, "healing through Love"—and perhaps another miracle!

ANNIVERSARY BREAKFAST

25 Years of Miracles Celebration

Thursday, April 25, 2019
8 am to 9 am
Arc of Frederick County
620A Research Ct.
Frederick, MD

Join us for a look back at Mission of Mercy's 25 years as we share inspiring stories, joyful and heartfelt memories.

25 Years of Miracles

As Recalled by Chief Medical Director Michael T. Sullivan, MD

Drawing from a mystical experience and invitation at the Lourdes Grotto in Emmitsburg, MD, on Jan. 31, 1993, my then fiancé, Dr. Gianna Talone, and I said "Yes" to God. Over the next 11 months we married, left the security of our homes and jobs, and with little savings, moved near Emmitsburg to launch Our Lord's Mission of Mercy to provide free healthcare for the poor and the underserved.

Within a few months, Dave and Maureen Liddle and their family did the same, moving from Seattle to join us as the volunteer executive director and the charge nurse in this venture. Near the same time, a benefactor came forward to turn our small \$2,000 deposit into a \$40,000 paid-in-full pre-owned RV/mobile medical clinic. A small board of directors stepped forward, led by Dr. Joseph Gallina, PharmD, of the University of Maryland Medical Center. Then from a rapidly growing weekly Prayer Group at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Emmitsburg, the funds needed to equip the entire clinic appeared, with many individuals and families purchasing particular items for the mobile medical clinic. Soon thereafter a handful of nurses and techs and a recently retired physician, Dr. George Miller, joined our volunteer team.

With only \$17,000 in the coffers and a 36-foot RV/equipped medical clinic, we timidly set a launch date of Aug. 17, 1994, at four pre-determined sites in Maryland (Emmitsburg, Brunswick, Westminster and Leitersburg.)

That first day in August 1994, it must have rained all day like in the times of Noah. We saw only six patients, performed a few simple on-board lab tests but had no back-up hospital lab and x-ray support, leaving us with some doubts. Yet word spread. Soon Carroll County and Frederick Memorial hospitals stepped forward with free ancillary and lab support. We added more clinic days and sites, and after one year, we were able to offer dental services with the help of local dentists Drs. Ed Enriquez and O. Sanidad.

Fueled with God's grace and inspiration, we moved forward, expanding up to a total of nine sites in Maryland and Pennsylvania by 2008. Along the way, Mission of Mercy launched a new regional program in Maricopa County (Phoenix) AZ, which has now grown to seven clinic sites. In 2007, MOM grew again, this time in Corpus Christi, TX, which now has six clinic sites. In each region, we've developed numerous partnerships and affiliations with hospitals, free-standing laboratory and radiology services, medical schools, private practitioners in a variety of specialties, dentists, local health departments and mental health facilities. There are presently nearly 700 medical

THE GETTYSBURG TIMES, THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 1994



Times photos by Don Shoemaker



MOBILE HEALTH CLINIC
— Medical staff of Mission of Mercy (above from left) Betty Lucier, R.N.; Cheryl Ortel, M.D.; Maureen Liddle, R.N.; Pat Adams, cardiovascular x-ray technician; Michael Sullivan, M.D.; Gianna Talone-Sullivan, pharmacologist; and Lena Lindburg, R.N., stand in a recreation vehicle filled with medical equipment and pharmacy to aid the sick, poor and homeless after the unit official opened (left) Wednesday in the parking lot of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in Emmitsburg, Md.

and non-medical volunteers involved in the current programs and several hundred more who have previously served with us but have moved on or passed away.

The Great Recession of 2008 required us to consolidate some sites and reduce expenses. We struggled to fund this ministry, but working together as a family, our MOM clinical and administrative teams kept the ship afloat during those difficult years.

Now, in 2018, MOM will launch a new mobile dental clinic in MD/PA, thanks to the generosity of foundations, churches and individual donors. At this point in the 25th year of our healthcare ministry, Mission of Mercy has freely served more than 100,000 individual patients during 500,000+ clinic visits to our medical and dental clinics in all three regions. We have also provided more than 750,000 free prescription medications.

It has all been possible through prayer, God's grace and the hard work and commitments of more than 1,000 past and current volunteers and staff in four states. With much gratitude for the privilege, we can humbly say that we are still striving to live our Mission of Mercy.



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CAN YOU Help?

For a quarter-century, Mission of Mercy has been making a difference in the lives of those we serve. When asked how we are able to continue to provide free healthcare, dental care and medications to so many in need, the answer is simple: our dedicated volunteers and community financial support. And we are always in need of both.

Can you help?

We are currently in need of volunteer Physical Therapists and Diabetic Educators at all of our clinics (excluding Frederick). If you'd like to share your gifts of time and talent, please contact 301.682.5683 (LOVE) and speak to Rachel Smith at extension 211.

Can you give?

Please consider a gift of health and hope today. A visit to our website (www.amicionofmercy.org) will provide you with several ways to support Mission of Mercy. Be sure to click on the Maryland/Pennsylvania program! If you would prefer to mail a gift, please use the enclosed envelope or mail your gift to Mission of Mercy, 22 S. Market St., Ste. 6D, Frederick, MD 21701.

In addition to our online giving opportunities, you can also help by participating in:

Mission of Mercy's Golf Classic: Monday, June 10th, 2019 – Would you consider being a sponsor or purchasing a foursome? We promise to have another terrific event, filled with scrumptious food, great raffle and gift items, super golfers and amazing golfers to enjoy your day with.

#GivingTuesday: ^{#GIVING} **TUESDAY** On Nov. 27, we invite you to put Black Friday and Cyber Monday behind you and make a gift on #GivingTuesday, a global day of giving to remember the less fortunate among us. You can support Mission of Mercy on #GivingTuesday by giving online at our website or simply mail us your gift.

Tribute Gift: What better way to honor a loved one, friend or neighbor than with a gift to Mission of Mercy? Your contribution in their memory will live on through our work to restore Healing through Love to our patients. We will send a card letting the recipients (or their loved ones) know of your gift. You can mail your gift or make your contribution on our website.